



Joint Information Center

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

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Power Coming On Bit by Bit

Joint Information Center, Grand Island, NE -

Power in areas of Nebraska hit hard by ice storms in late December is coming on incrementally as crews re-establish connections and generators arrive in darkened communities.

One community was removed from the list of 10 that were out of service when Bertrand was connected to generator power Thursday evening, January 4. That leaves the communities of Heartwell, Funk, Inland, Kenesaw, Ragan, Riverton, Upton, Loomis and Odessa still without power. Public power districts plan to have all communities provided with power – either from generators or from line connections – by the end of the day on Sunday, January 7.

In Kearney, one of the two feeder lines bringing power to the city was lost Friday morning, but crews re-established that line at 10:30 the same morning, and the load was balanced during the process with no need for any rolling blackouts in the city.

As of seven o'clock Friday morning, Elkhorn Rural Public Power District had cut the number of residents without power in half from the Thursday total. About 850 customers remain without electric service in Elkhorn's service agency.

North Central Public Power District, headquartered in Creighton, has less than 50 residential and commercial customers without power at this time. However, the North Central system is fragile and many stock wells and seasonal services remain without power. The total includes 18 customers in Knox County; 20 in Antelope County; and 12 in Pierce County.

Snow began to fall in the area Friday morning, but accumulations were expected to be light and power companies expected no weather-related problems.